

2 Corinthians 4 – Therefore we don't lose heart!



This chapter is bookended by 'do not lose heart'. Verse 1 makes it clear that Paul is talking about ministry (about telling others about Jesus) so we can be pretty sure that this section is all about **why Paul doesn't lose heart** when it comes to ministry and following Jesus.

Read v1-6

Paul talks about the gospel being light.



Paul describes two groups of people – those who are blind to the light by the distractions of the world and those in whom God has made the light shine. There are people who don't believe Jesus is Lord and those who do.

Having this light shine in our hearts is great news! And we must pray for those who are blind to it and ask God to shine the light of the gospel in their hearts too.

Read v7-12

Being a Christian is brilliant but isn't always easy. Paul describes his Christian life in v8 and 9. Can you fill in the blanks? (You can just do it in your head!)

_____ but not _____
 _____ but not _____
 _____ but not _____
 _____ but not _____

Why does God choose to do things this way? (v7)

Read v13-18

So, how does he not lose heart? Think about how you'd fill in the blanks below:

v16 Outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are _____.

v17 Our troubles now are _____ and _____ and achieving e_____ g_____.

v18 He fixes his eyes on what's u_____ because it is e_____.

From this passage and your reading so far, how would you sum up the challenges of the Christian life? How would you sum up why we don't need to lose heart?